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# ANNUAL REPORT 1977

The Massachusetts  
Commission on Indian Affairs



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Michael S. Dukakis, Governor.

Department of Community Affairs  
William G. Flynn, Secretary.





# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## *Commission on Indian Affairs*

*John W. McCormack Building  
One Ashburton Place — Rm. 1004*

*Boston, Mass. 02108*

*Telephone 617-727-6394*

MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS  
Governor

WILLIAM G. FLYNN  
Secretary

JACOB THOMPSON  
Executive Director

His Excellency  
Michael S. Dukakis  
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
State House, Room 360  
Boston, MA. 02133

Dear Governor Dukakis:

It is with a great deal of pride and pleasure that I present this Annual Report covering the activities of the Commission on Indian Affairs for the year, 1977.

While we feel the achievements are significant, we know there is still much to be done to meet the needs of our Indian people and have them become self-determining people of our State.

We appreciate your cooperation and support during the last year and are convinced that as we work together during this next year, even more progress can be accomplished.

Sincerely,

*Jacob Thompson*  
Jacob Thompson,  
Executive Director





REPORT  
of the  
MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS  
FOR THE YEAR 1977

McCormack State Office Bldg.  
One Ashburton Place  
Room 1004  
Boston, MA. 02108



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## INTRODUCTION

The Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs was established by an Act of Legislature and officially sworn into office November, 1974, with a mandate to assist the Native American Indian population of the Commonwealth in their dealings with State and local governments and provide assistance to Tribal Councils, Inter-tribal organizations and American Indian individuals in their needs, concerns and affairs. Membership of the Commission consists of seven Commissioners and one staff person, the Executive Director.

In compliance with Chapter seven, section thirty-nine of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the following annual report is submitted consisting of the activities of the Commission on Indian Affairs during the 1977 calendar year.

Although hampered by lack of State appropriations the Commission has taken several positive directions in the areas of Education, Human Services, Law Enforcement, Grants, Administration, Housing, Employment, State and Federal Legislation, the finalization of a Native American Census and has established positive relationships with the State Legislature (s), State agencies, Federal agencies, Congressional people, and National Tribal Governments and Organizations. The Commission has, to the best of its ability, maintained its deep commitment to its Native American constituency in providing technical assistance and referral assistance to Inter-tribal organizations, Tribal Councils and Native individuals.

## BUDGET

The approved State budget for the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs for fiscal year 1977 was \$24,700.00.



## GRANTS

1. The Commission on Indian Affairs received a Grant of \$1,000.00 to provide emergency assistance to Native Americans. The Grant was provided by the Lutheran N.E. Synod.
2. The emergency fund was designed to service Indian people in emergency situations dealing basically with food and medical assistance. Children and Elders were given priority consideration. The Emergency Assistance fund served 19 American Indian individuals.

## ADMINISTRATIVE

Resulting from a meeting between Governor Dukakis and the Chairperson of the Commission on Indian Affairs for further staffing in the Commission office, Governor Dukakis has provided the Commission on Indian Affairs with three (3) PSE (CETA) positions.

## EDUCATION

(attachment #1)

H108, A Bill to establish 30 full tuition scholarships for indigenous Native Americans residing in the Commonwealth, was approved by the Committee on Education but was killed in the Committee on Ways and Means for the reason that the Board of Higher Education refused to support it. It is standard procedure for the Committee to seek opinion from the Board on bills dealing with scholarship programs. The Board's policy is to oppose scholarship bills that single out specific groups, for they argue that their existing programs fulfill the needs of all low-income families. However, eligible Native American students for scholarships are most often unfairly subjected to the competition levels among other disadvantaged or minority students, a circumstance which prevents potential Indian students from attending institutions of higher learning because they simply can not compete.





The Commission will refile its Bill in the next session of the Legislature and undertake efforts to overcome the Board's objections.

HOUSING

(attachment #2)

The Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs submitted H107 "An Act to Establish Indian Housing Authorities."

H107, died in Committee because of political reasons in regard to the Mashpee Wampanoag Land case.

HUNTING - FISHING

(attachment #3)

H110 would provide free Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Rights to indigenous Indians of Massachusetts.

H110 was reported out of the Committee on Natural resources very favorably with the recommendation of "ought to pass" as amended, and was re-numbered H5243, however, H5243 was killed in Ways and Means Committee.

MORATORIUM ON GRAVE DIGGING

(attachment #4)

H109 was designed to call for a Moratorium on excavation of known Indian Burial grounds. H109 was not recommended for passage out of the Committee on Commerce and Labor.

EMPLOYMENT

C.E.T.A.

The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act Program (C.E.T.A.) is funded by the United States Department of Labor to provide job training and employment opportunities for the unemployed, under-employed and economically disadvantaged. In Mid-November 1977, two persons were placed in the Commission office for job training.



- (A) A CETA participant under the direction of the Commission Director is being provided training and assistance in general clerical work and exposure to the procedures of State Legislation.
  
- (B) A CETA participant under the direction of the Director of the Indian Commission is being provided training and assistance in the area of compiling the Census and Liaison duties between the Commission on Indian Affairs, and the Massachusetts State agencies, and Departments.

#### CONSTRUCTION

In an Executive Order issued by the Governor, a provision was made that each State construction project would have at least a 30% minority work force. Because of the high rate of unemployed Native American construction workers, this program could significantly alleviate severe unemployment among the Native American population.

The Department of Community Affairs and other State agencies or Departments will advise the Commission on the availability of job openings within their departmental structure.

#### HUMAN SERVICES

The Commission on Indian Affairs in conjunction and cooperation with the Governor's Human Services Office has served approximately sixty-two Native American persons on recommendation from the Director of the Commission on Indian Affairs.



### LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Commission on Indian Affairs worked with and encouraged two Native persons to take the Boston police examinations, and one as a Correction officer for the State.

### FUNDING

The Commission suffers a severe handicap from the lack of appropriations from the Commonwealth. Because of this status, the Commission has served in a referral capacity to the Tribal Councils, Native organizations and Native individuals seeking assistance, and represented Native Americans in dealing with State and local authorities. However, because of its critically low funded status, the Commission must continue to rely on emergency employment acts (i.e. CETA) to fund staff salaries on a short term basis, presently, the only position now State funded is of the Executive Director.

### CENSUS

(attachment #5)

The taking of the cross sample census of Indian People residing in Massachusetts was determined as a goal of the Commission. This goal of a cross sample census was accomplished through a \$30,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The importance of a census has many valuable and far reaching effects which could result in the improvement of the Health, Education, Employment and other Social Service programs among the Commonwealth's eligible American Indian population which currently suffers from inadequacies of these State or Federal services.

### A-95

The Commission is now a part of the Commonwealth's A-95 review procedure. This A-95 process is a means to review projected proposals for funding within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



POSITION PAPER: Submitted by Jacob Thompson, Executive Director

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MASSACHUSETTS STATE GOVERNMENT TO ITS RESIDENT INDIAN POPULACE AND THE ROLE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS AS AN AGENCY TO RESIDENT NATIVE AMERICANS.

Ever since the allotment Act of 1887, the goal of the Federal Government has been to place the American Indians on the same plane of Citizenship as other individuals. The Citizenship Act of 1924, made it impossible for States to overlook Indians as State citizens. Most States recognized this joint problem. Therefore, States inherit the former responsibilities of the Federal Government through three processes:

- (i) migration of Indians from the reservations to its cities or other non-reservation areas in search of greater opportunities which brings them under State jurisdiction;
- (ii) transfer of functions from the Federal government to the States for Indians still residing on Federal reservations; and
- (iii) termination of all Federal responsibility for an Indian group.

Many non-reservation Indians, of course, were not involved in any of the above processes. There are Eastern Indians whose ancestors were absorbed as citizens by the original 13 States or who never had a Treaty or an Agreement with the Federal Government.

These 13 States as Colonies and later as States were accustomed to dealing directly with their indigenous Indians under the Articles of Confederation. They continued to do so, in many instances, after the adoption of the Constitution in 1789. Such assumption of authority has been questioned from time to time on the premise that the Constitution places full power over the Indians in the





Federal government and that unless the Federal government provides for State assumption by specific statute such assumption is not valid.

Migration to the city or urban/rural areas brings Indians under the same governmental structure and services as other residents. Thus, since the mid-1950's the movement of Indians to urban centers has accelerated, as is the case with other segments of our rural population, for many of the same reasons. Therefore, in the near future there may be as many American Indians residing in urban areas as there are on reservations. This will be a process of major importance, not only because of the resulting increased responsibilities of the State, but because of the special adjustment problems of many Indian migrants to the urban areas.

The major participation by the State in this function was initiated by the passage of the Social Security Act in 1936. The categorical aid programs under Social Security (Old Age Assistance, Aid to Blind, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, and Aid to Permanently and Totally Disabled) are administered through the State for all of their citizens including their Indian citizens both on and off reservations.

The future role of the State with regard to their American Indian citizens will be determined by the following considerations: Indian attitudes and goals, changing national policies, the changing nature of Federal obligations to Indians, the initiatives taken by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the effectiveness of Tribal government.

The present services to resident Indians provided by the State government are provided other citizens by local and State government. If local and State services were more responsive to Indians, the Indians would likely opt for them



in their own self interest.

American Indians can help in the revitalization of State government, making State services more responsive to Indian needs and concerns, through cooperative efforts in the development of adequate policies and programs and in the improvement of funding to create such policies and programs. They can work with the State to obtain necessary financial help from the Federal government, and they can work with the State in developing healthier economies which will help individual Indians and Tribal incomes.

One of the functions of the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs is to be a liaison between Tribal Councils, local Governments, State Departments, the State legislature, and Federal activities both in the Executive and Legislative branches. When there is lack of communication or when coordination of effort is needed, the Executive Director of the Commission on Indian Affairs tries to resolve the situation through joint meetings of Tribal, local and State officials, when appropriate.

Thus, Massachusetts has criteria for special State activity for its indigenous Indians. The reasons are three fold:

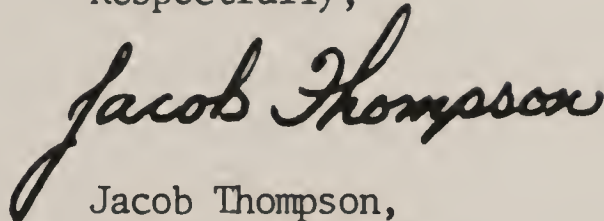
- (i) the existence of Trust land stems from Treaties or other agreements between the Indians concerned and the State or Federal government (or the Colonial Government preceding them);
- (ii) the existence of land held in Trust imposes a responsibility on the trustee to carry out its trust responsibilities; and
- (iii) where the Tribal government performs governmental functions for its members which are normally provided by State and local government to its citizens, special adjustments in program



delivery should be made by both the State and local government,  
as well by both State and Federal government in behalf of  
Tribal government.

It is from this perspective that I view the responsibilities of the State of  
Massachusetts to its Native Americans and the role of the Commission on Indian  
Affairs to ensure that the State and its various agencies fulfill these  
responsibilities.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Thompson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jacob Thompson,  
Executive Director

JT/gj



Respectfully submitted,

*Zara Ciscoe Brough*

Ms. Zara Ciscoe Brough,  
Chairperson  
Massachusetts Commission  
On Indian Affairs

and

*Jacob Thompson*

Jacob Thompson,  
Executive Director  
Massachusetts Commission  
On Indian Affairs





ATTACHMENT # 1

HOUSE . . . . . No. 108

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Accompanying the second recommendation of the Commission on Indian Affairs (House, No. 106). Education.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING 30 FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CERTAIN PERSONS OF AMERICAN INDIAN DESCENT ATTENDING STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 69 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding  
2 after Section 7E the following:

3 *Section 7F:* There are hereby established thirty (30) full  
4 scholarships to be given to qualified and eligible Native Americans  
5 indigenious to the State of Massachusetts who meet criteria  
6 established by the Board of Higher Education pertaining to  
7 financial need.

8 The Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs shall  
9 determine who is indigenious to the State of Massachusetts and  
10 shall communicate this information to the Board of Higher  
11 Education.

12 Said scholarships shall be awarded by the Board of Higher  
13 Education to each such person who qualifies for entrance to any  
14 regional community college, college or university which is  
15 supported wholly or partially by State funds.

16 The amount of such scholarships shall be equal to the amount of  
17 tuition, fees and course-related expenses charged by the institution  
18 attended. Such scholarships shall also include a stipend equal to  
19 the average amount awarded to students holding comparable  
20 scholarships within a given institution. Said scholarships shall  
21 continue for such time as the recipient thereof remains a student in  
22 good standing at such institution, but in no event shall any student  
23 receive such scholarship aid for more than four years. The Board of

24 Higher Education shall establish such regulations defining  
25 financial need as a criterion for eligibility for these scholarships as  
26 it deems necessary, and said scholarships shall be payable by the  
27 Board of Higher Education from sums appropriated for  
28 scholarship programs.



ATTACHMENT # 2

HOUSE . . . . . No. 107

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Accompanying the first recommendation of the Commission on Indian Affairs (House, No. 106). Urban Affairs.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITIES.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 121B of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following new Section 3B:

3 *Section 3B. Indian Housing Authorities.*

4 (1) There is hereby created, in and for the Nipmuc, Mashpee,  
5 and Gay Head Wampanoag Indian tribes, a public body,  
6 corporate and politic, to be known as the "Housing Authority" of  
7 each said Indian tribe, which shall have and exercise all necessary  
8 legal powers to carry out low income housing projects for Indians;  
9 provided, that no such Indian Housing Authority shall transact  
10 any business nor exercise its powers hereunder until or unless the  
11 Tribal Council of the respective tribe, by proper resolution,  
12 declares that there is a need for an authority to function therein.

13 (2) Each said housing authority shall be subject to and operate  
14 as provided in the statutes and regulations of the United States  
15 applicable to Indian Housing Authorities.

16 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, but only to the  
17 extent consistent with the statutes and regulations of the United  
18 States applicable to Indian Housing Authorities, each said Indian  
19 Housing Authority shall possess all rights, powers, functions and  
20 duties provided by this Chapter for local housing authorities, and  
21 each said Indian tribe shall possess all rights, powers, functions  
22 and duties with respect to said Indian Housing Authorities, as are  
23 provided by this Chapter for municipalities with respect to local  
24 housing authorities, and may require periodic reports from the  
25 respective Housing Authorities.

(over)



26 (4) All powers of appointment and removal of members of such  
27 Indian Housing Authorities shall be exclusively exercised by the  
28 respective tribal councils, but members shall otherwise be  
29 appointed, removed, compensated and organized in the same  
30 manner for the same terms as are provided by this Chapter for  
31 housing authorities in cities.

32 (5) Neither the Commonwealth nor any Indian tribe or tribal  
33 council shall be liable for any of debts, obligations or liabilities or  
34 any Indian Housing Authority; provided, that the Commonwealth  
35 or any tribe may assume such liabilities under the same  
36 circumstances and for the same purposes as are provided by this  
37 Chapter for such assumption of liabilities by the Commonwealth  
38 and by municipalities with respect to local housing authorities.

39 (6) The area of operations of the housing authority of the  
40 Nipmuc tribe shall consist of Worcester County; the area of  
41 operations of the housing authority of the Mashpee tribe shall  
42 consist of Barnstable County; the area of operations of the housing  
43 authority of the Gay Head Wampanoag tribe shall consist of  
44 Dukes County.

45 (7) The housing authorities of the Mashpee tribe and the Gay  
46 Head Wampanoag tribe may enter into a consortium board for the  
47 purpose of operations in the Wampanoag reservation in the Fall  
48 River-Freetown State Forest, and shall thereupon be empowered  
49 to operate concurrently in said reservation as an additional area of  
50 operations.

51 (8) In addition to any other area of operations authorized by  
52 this Section, any two or more Indian Housing Authorities may  
53 enter into a consortium agreement and establish a consortium  
54 board for the purpose of operations in the City of Boston, and shall  
55 thereupon be empowered to operate concurrently in said City as an  
56 additional area of operations; provided, that projects undertaken  
57 pursuant to such agreement shall not be approved unless the  
58 agreement provides that the majority of members of the  
59 consortium board is nominated by the Boston Indian Council as  
60 the representative organization in the relevant service population.

61 (9) The operation of any Indian Housing Authority in any  
62 locality shall not affect or diminish the right or power of any other  
63 duly constituted housing authority to operate in such locality as  
64 authorized by this Chapter.

65 (10) Any two or more Indian Housing Authorities or consor-  
66 tium boards authorized by this Section may enter into agreements  
67 providing for joint planning, development, operation, manage-  
68 ment, or administration of any housing programs or projects  
69 authorized by this Section.

1 SECTION 2. If any provision or clause of this Act or  
2 application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid,  
3 such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of  
4 the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or  
5 application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are so  
6 declared to be severable.



# ATTACHMENT #3

2

HOUSE — No. 5243

[March 1978]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

AN ACT GRANTING NATIVE AMERICANS INDIGENOUS TO THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS FISHING, HUNTING AND  
TRAPPING RIGHTS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AT  
NO COST.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 11 of Chapter 131 of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph of said  
3 section a new paragraph as follows:

4 No fee shall be charged for any license issued under this section  
5 to a native American Indian who is certified by the Executive  
6 Director for the Commission on Indian Affairs as an enrolled  
7 member of a tribe indigenous to the Commonwealth of  
8 Massachusetts. Such person shall present to the authorized  
9 licensing agent of the director of fisheries and wildlife a certificate  
10 identifying him as an enrolled tribal member and such certificate  
11 shall be issued by the Commission in a form approved by the  
12 director. Applications shall be subject to all other laws, rules and  
13 regulations pertaining to fishing, hunting and trapping in the  
14 Commonwealth.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January the first,  
2 nineteen hundred and eighty.





ATTACHMENT # 3  
See also H 5243  
ATTACHED

HOUSE . . . . . No. 110

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Accompanying the fourth recommendation of the Commission on Indian Affairs (House, No. 106). Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

*In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight.*

AN ACT GRANTING NATIVE AMERICANS INDIGENOUS TO THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING RIGHTS IN THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS AT NO COST.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section 11 of Chapter 131 of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by inserting a sub-paragraph between paragraph (5)  
3 beginning with the words "All other aliens" and paragraph six (6)  
4 beginning with the words "The fee for an archery stamp", as  
5 follows:  
6 "The State of Massachusetts shall provide free of charge  
7 hunting, fishing and trapping licenses to all interested Indians who  
8 are enrolled tribal members indigenous to the Commonwealth of  
9 Massachusetts, subject to all other laws, and regulations  
10 pertaining to fishing, hunting and trapping in the State of  
11 Massachusetts.



ATTACHMENT # 4

HOUSE . . . . . No. 109

Accompanying the third recommendation of the Commission on Indian Affairs (House, No. 106). Commerce and Labor.

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TWO YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE EXCAVATION OF KNOWN INDIAN BURIAL GROUNDS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Section 27 of Chapter 9 of the General Laws is hereby amended  
2 by adding the following subsection 27D:

3 *Section 27D.* There shall be a two (2) year moratorium on the  
4 excavation of known Indian burial grounds for the purpose of  
5 permitting the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs, and  
6 other appropriate state agencies to evaluate current practices and  
7 develop practices acceptable to the aforementioned agencies.

8 In the event of an inadvertent excavation of Indian burial  
9 grounds such specimens as are obtained therefrom shall be  
10 disposed of in accordance with procedures acceptable to the  
11 Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs and appropriate  
12 state agencies.

13 This amendment shall be in force for a period not to exceed two  
14 (2) years from the date of enactment of this act.



INTRODUCTION TO THE INDIAN COMMUNITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BY  
THE COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Native Americans residing in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts reflect an ancestry that is just now being recognized by the dominant society after many years of neglect and total misunderstanding. This increased awareness is largely due to controversial Indian land claims both in the Commonwealth and in other New England states.

Additionally, in response to the national Indian civil rights movement, Native Americans have requested extensive assistance in the area of health, education, employment and housing; they also desire self-determination and broader opportunities for the development of their communities. A census was generated to support these appeals.

The 1975-76 Native American Census was conducted by the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs, and implemented under a HUD 701 grant. It was conducted by members of the tribal councils, based primarily on their tribal rosters, and augmented by suggestions from respondents. Consequently, data compiled represents a selection of the total population of Native Americans in Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup>

This census informs the tribal councils as to the condition of their constituency. If it is serviceable to them in channeling aid to meet some of the problems described below, it will also encourage additional responses from those Indians who are isolated and despondent. This will enable progressively broader distribution of aid, and the amelioration of progressively more difficult social problems.

There are varying numbers of Indians living in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at any given time. There are many reasons for fluctuating figures, including short-term urban to rural migration, termination of employment by certain occupational groups, e.g., iron workers, and construction personnel. Also, a number of Indians attend local universities for short periods of time.

The problems plaguing Indian communities are basically the same throughout the Commonwealth, and range from alcoholism and unemployment to lack of proper education and housing. The issues of alcohol and unemployment generally have a bearing on one another, as do the remainder of the dilemmas facing Native Americans today.

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix D for Map showing the location of tribal councils in Massachusetts and the areas from which census information was obtained.



Employment: For the inexperienced and uneducated, there are only unskilled and semi-skilled positions available; these jobs are usually the first to be affected by fluctuations in the national economy. Many Indian people are unemployed; this dilemma aggravates their already difficult family life, and magnifies the problem of finding adequate low-cost housing. Employment uncertainty is compounded by the fact that many of the existing jobs are seasonal, and involve travel, in which case some families must necessarily be left behind. This situation creates critical problems, such as the breakdown in family unity. Those workers who are able to take their families with them experience hardships which especially affect the children whose education is constantly disrupted.

Housing: One of the major concerns of the Indian community is satisfactory housing conditions. The welfare and unemployment systems have been an ineffectual alternative. Consequently, the Indians are forced to live in inadequate conditions. This impoverishment is reinforced by landlords who fail to maintain the property or who increase rental costs out-of-reach for the tenants. This problem is more distressing when the family is large. Large families, several generations living together, is a major stronghold of the Indian population. Lack of adequate housing is threatening to disrupt this concept of family.

Health and Mental Health: Unemployment and overcrowded housing combine to produce poor health conditions, resulting in a high rate of disease among Indians (primarily of the upper respiratory and gastrointestinal types). Frequent cases of malnutrition are documented.

The overwhelming frustration of their already troubled family lives often leads Native Americans to alcoholism and drug abuse. Although these problems are not exclusively theirs, they do not have support services available to them. As a result, family stability is threatened, and passive child abuse (leaving youngsters alone and unfed) may occur. Further consequences of alcoholism and drug abuse can be criminal offenses, ranging from public drunkenness to acts of extreme violence.

Children and Youth: Indian children must have an awareness of themselves as Native Americans. This is usually obtained through the family and re-enforced by formal education. Unfortunately, Indian young people attend schools where textbooks ignore or misinterpret the Native American heritage. Indian children come in contact with a mass media that tends to stereotype them, usually negatively. In this atmosphere, they lose fluency in speaking their native language. The knowledge of their native history and traditions fades.

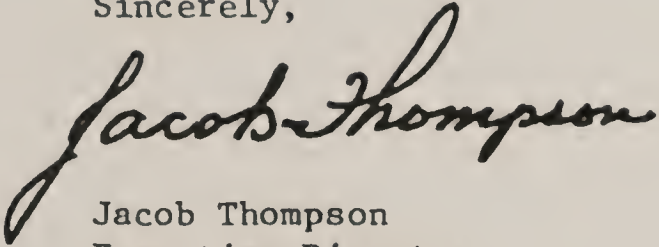
When families are disrupted and the schools are biased against them, they retaliate. Many Indian children drift into juvenile delinquency. They fall prey to drinking, drug abuse, and truancy. Often they run away from home, and suicide is not an uncommon outcome.





Legal Rights: As a consequence of some arrests and/or convictions, Native Americans frequently receive treatment which is unjust. This inequity can be attributed to 1) the Indian's incomprehension of the law and the rights of the individual; 2) inconsistency in law enforcement, and 3) lack of funds to secure adequate legal representation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Thompson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jacob Thompson  
Executive Director



PREFACE TO THE INDIAN CENSUS

The purpose of the census was to obtain an accurate and detailed account of a sample of the Indian population in Massachusetts. The sample was generated by the tribal councils. Starting with tribal rolls, the sample was enlarged to include those suggested by the respondents. Thus this sample comprises those known directly to the tribal councils as Indians, and those discovered by a chain of personal knowledge. It therefore tends to omit the isolated or highly transient, and those who either reside outside of the areas of focus of the Indian councils or those who choose exclusion. In order to interpret these results it is necessary to use as the context: the composition and size of the sample, the form of the questionnaire, and the elements of error.

The finalized data in this report can be attributed to personal information on a maximum of 3849 participants of which there are 998 households. 289 of these respondents or 7.5% are non-Indians, who are included in the tables because of their relationship to the Indian households. The areas covered by the census are outlined in the map in Appendix D. The tables are based on the ratio of selected responses to total respondents giving the necessary information. This method of presentation along with establishing class intervals was used to reduce the probability of error on each table.

The questionnaire was administered between January, 1976 and June, 1976. It was administered in person at the respondents place of residency by members of the various tribal councils and their assistants. Appendix A contains a copy of the letter which introduced the census takers to the participants. The questionnaire contained 25 items. It was designed to obtain a variety of factual information about the Indian population in Massachusetts. The general format of the questionnaire is given in Appendix A.1.

The primary source of error is caused by missing information. (See Appendix C). In this area distinctions cannot be made between refusal to answer, non-applicable category, or recording error. The other source of error pertains to coding. Coding errors are introduced by the census-takers, participants, and during the processing of the data. Generally, these errors do not deter significantly from the reliability of the data.

As a result of this study, the percentage distributions of individuals from the Indian community were found to be:

Sex: 50.6% females; 49.4% males  
Race: 27.2% indigneous tribes; 72.8% non-indigenous tribes  
Age: 48% 0-20; 29.6% 21-40; 15.5% 41-60; 6.2% 61 and over.  
Median school years completed for those over age 20 - 12 years  
Median family yearly income range - \$4500-5999



Recognizing that this data represents a fairly accurate picture of those Indians who have a link with the tribal councils, but does not represent at all well the alienated or transient, this data should be supplemented by other studies. The hope is that this material will serve as a guideline for the resolution of some of the concerns of the Indian population and that these preliminary findings will encourage others to undertake further study.



1. Age Distribution, 1976

Number of Subjects. . . . 3497

AGE	Age Ratio		Total (%)
	Male (%)	Female (%)	
Under 5 years	5.7	5.0	10.7
6 to 10 years	6.0	6.6	12.6
11 to 20 years	12.2	12.5	24.7
21 to 30 years	9.5	9.6	19.1
31 to 40 years	5.1	5.4	10.5
41 to 50 years	4.3	4.6	8.9
51 to 60 years	3.3	3.3	6.6
61 to 70 years	2.0	1.8	3.8
71 to 80 years	1.0	1.4	2.4
81 years and over	0.3	0.4	0.7
Total by Sex (%)	49.4	50.6	100.0





2. Household Distribution, 1976

Percent of people in households by relationship to head of household

NUMBER OF SUBJECTS . . . . 3432

Age and Sex	Head of Households (%)	Spouse (%)	Child (%)	Other Relative (%)	Lodger (%)	Other (Unrelated) (%)	TOTAL (%)
<u>Male</u>							
Under 5 years	...	...	5.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	5.6
6 to 10 years	...	...	5.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	6.0
11 to 20 years	0.3	0.0	11.0	0.6	0.3	0.0	12.2
21 to 30 years	5.1	0.0	3.0	0.5	0.9	0.0	9.5
31 to 40 years	4.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	5.1
41 to 50 years	3.4	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	4.4
51 to 60 years	3.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	3.3
61 to 70 years	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	1.9
71 to 80 years	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.0
81 years and over	0.3	0.0	...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
							<u>49.3</u>
<u>Female</u>							
Under 5 years	...	...	4.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	5.0
6 to 10 years	...	...	6.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	6.6
11 to 20 years	0.5	0.3	11.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	12.6
21 to 30 years	3.1	3.9	2.0	0.1	0.4	0.0	9.5
31 to 40 years	1.9	3.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	5.3
41 to 50 years	1.6	2.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	4.7
51 to 60 years	1.2	1.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.3
61 to 70 years	0.8	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.8
71 to 80 years	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.4
81 years and over	0.3	0.0	...	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.5
							<u>50.7</u>
							TOTAL
Total Household Position (%)	29.0	13.4	50.7	3.4	3.4	0.1	100.0



### 3. Marital Status, 1976

Number of Responses . . . 2526

AGE	MARITAL STATUS RATIO					
	Single (%)	Married (%)	Separated (%)	Widowed (%)	Divorced (%)	
Under 20 years	29.1	1.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	
21 to 30 years	10.8	10.6	1.5	0.0	1.7	
31 to 40 years	2.0	8.1	1.1	0.2	2.6	
41 to 50 years	1.2	7.5	1.0	0.5	1.7	
51 to 60 years	0.7	5.8	0.5	1.0	0.8	
61 to 70 years	0.5	3.1	0.2	1.0	0.3	
71 to 80 years	0.3	1.4	0.1	1.2	0.2	
81 years and over	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	
						TOTAL
Total Marital Status (%)	44.8	38.6	4.5	4.6	7.5	100.0



4. Household Income, 1976

Percent of households of which a total household income was reported

Number of households . . . 707

1975 Yearly Income	Percent of Total
Under \$1500	10.4
\$1500 to \$2999	15.7
\$3000 to \$4499	16.4
\$4500 to \$5999	18.4
\$6000 to \$7799	9.8
\$7800 to \$9599	8.3
\$9600 to \$11399	5.8
\$11400 to \$13199	4.2
\$13200 to \$14999	1.8
\$15000 and over	9.2
TOTAL	100.0



5. Educational Distribution, 1976

Years of school completed by percent of persons 11 years old and over  
 Responses to Educational Status. . . . . 2872

AGE	Pre-school (%)	Elementary School (%)				High School (%)				College (%)				5 or more
		1 and 2	3 and 4	5 and 6	7 and 8	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	
11 to 20	0.0	0.2	1.5	5.1	6.6	3.6	3.1	2.7	4.7	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
21 to 30	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.5	1.4	1.8	1.2	14.5	1.5	1.6	0.8	1.2	0.7
31 to 40	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.6	1.0	1.3	1.1	6.7	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.6
41 to 50	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.5	0.9	1.1	0.7	5.2	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.3
51 to 60	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.6	4.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3
61 to 70	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.5	0.2	2.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
71 to 80	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
81 years and over	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	0.0	0.4	1.8	6.9	15.4	8.3	8.6	6.6	38.3	3.5	4.2	1.2	2.8	2.0

TOTAL  
100.0

5.1 Educational Distribution, 1976

SEX	Preschool	Elementary				High School			College			
		1 to 4 (%)	5 to 6 (%)	7 (%)	8 (%)	1 to 2 (%)	3 (%)	4 (%)	1 to 2 (%)	3 (%)	4 (%)	5 or more (%)
Male	0.0	1.4	3.4	2.6	5.5	8.7	3.0	17.7	3.7	0.7	1.1	1.2
Female	0.1	0.9	3.4	3.2	4.0	8.5	3.6	20.3	3.9	0.6	1.7	0.8
TOTAL	0.1	2.3	6.8	5.8	9.5	17.2	6.6	38.0	7.6	1.3	2.8	2.0

TOTAL  
100.0





6. Percent Distribution by Major

Occupation Groups\*, 1976

Number of Respondents to Occupation Category . . . 971

<u>White-collar workers</u>	<u>35.5%</u>
professional, technical. . . . .	17.2
managers, officials. . . . .	3.8
clerical . . . . .	11.2
sales workers . . . . .	3.3
<u>Manual and service workers</u>	<u>37.3</u>
craftsmen, foremen . . . . .	24.1
laborers, except farm . . . . .	13.2
<u>Service workers</u>	<u>27.0</u>
private household workers. . . . .	1.6
other service workers . . . . .	25.4
<u>Farm workers</u>	<u>0.2</u>
farmers and farm management. . . . .	0.1
farm laborers and foremen . . . . .	0.1
	<u>100.0</u>

\* Occupational Groups classified according to Monthly Labor Review of Bureau of Labor Statistics



7. Employment Status of the population 21 years older and over

Number of subjects . . . 1684

Employment Status

Male %

Labor force.....44.6  
 employed.....33.2  
 unemployed.....11.4  
 Not in labor force\*..... 5.3

Female %

Labor force.....37.9  
 employed..... 22.5  
 unemployed..... 15.4  
 Not in labor force\*.....12.2

TOTAL 100.0

\*Not in Labor force includes: students, retirees, housewives, disabled, and others

7.1 Employment status of population in major occupational groups

Number of respondents listing occupations... 917

Major Occupation	Labor Force		Not in Labor Force(%)
	employed(%)	Unemployed(%)	
<u>White-collar Workers</u>			
professional, technical managers, officials	17.8	1.4	0.3
clerical	3.7	0.2	0.1
sales workers	10.7	0.6	0.0
	2.8	0.2	0.0
<u>Manual and Service Workers</u>			
craftsmen, foremen	28.7	4.9	0.8
laborers, except farm	8.1	3.1	0.3
<u>Service Workers</u>			
private household workers	0.0	0.0	0.2
other service workers	13.1	2.8	0.2
<u>Farm Workers</u>			
farmers and farm management	0.0	0.0	0.0
farm laborers and foremen	0.0	0.0	0.0
			TOTAL
TOTAL % Employment Status	84.9	13.2	1.9 100.0



8. Percent distribution of population by tribes

Number of responses to Tribal designation . . . 3684

Tribe	Percent of Total	
	Male	Female
<u>Indigenous</u>		
Wampanoag	11.8	12.9
Nipmuc	1.2	1.3
<u>Non-indigenous</u>		
Abenaki	0.5	0.6
Algonquin	1.2	1.2
Blackfoot	0.7	0.9
Cherokee	2.4	2.7
Iroquois*	0.8	0.7
Lakota	0.8	1.5
Micmac	10.7	10.2
Mohawk	3.3	3.5
Narraganset	0.9	0.8
Penobscot	1.2	1.4
Passamaquoddy	1.5	1.4
Unspecified Tribe	2.4	2.4
Non-Indian**	4.2	3.6
Other	5.6	5.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49.2</b>	<b>50.8</b>

\* Iroquois are classified into several groups containing the Mohawk, Onondaga, Oneida, Cayuga, Seneca, Tuscarora. The specific group was not defined for this 1.5%.

\*\* A Non-Indian for the purposes of this census is a member of an Indian Household, but not an Indian.

8.1 Percent Distribution of Tribal Households by town of residence with greater than 19 households per town

Number of Households Tallied . . . 283

Town of Residence	Tribe %	
	Micmac	Wampanoag
Boston	40.3	
Gayhead		8.8
Mashpee		32.2
Lawrence	10.6	
Worcester	8.1	



9. Type of public assistance received

Number of affirmative responses to question on receiving public assistance...975

Public Assistance	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)
General Relief	2.6	1.2	3.8
AFDC	6.9	11.3	18.2
Disability	1.7	1.7	3.4
Medicare	1.0	2.0	3.0
Medicaid	3.0	4.9	7.9
Veteran's Assistance	2.7	0.8	3.5
Social Security	3.2	3.8	7.0
Supplemental Security Income	0.6	0.9	1.5
Unemployment	4.3	0.9	5.2
Other*	19.9	26.6	46.5
			TOTAL
TOTAL	45.9	54.1	100.0

10. Percent Distribution of handicapped by age

Number of Yes and No responses to question of handicapped status....3022  
Of this total 192 or 6.3% are Yes responses

Age	Percent of Handicapped
Under 10 years	9.4
11 to 20 years	13.0
21 to 30 years	15.1
31 to 40 years	11.5
41 to 50 years	13.5
51 to 60 years	15.6
61 to 70 years	9.4
71 to 80 years	8.3
81 years and over	4.2
	100.0

\* Includes recipients of public assistance but type is unknown





11. Veteran status of population 21 years and over

Number of responses.....337

Age	Percent of Total
21 to 30 years	20.5
31 to 40 years	18.4
41 to 50 years	26.4
51 to 60 years	22.5
61 to 70 years	7.4
71 to 80 years	2.7
81 years and over	2.1
	100.0

12. Source of medical care

Number of responses.....2240

Medical care	Male	Female	Total
Hospital	10.4	10.3	20.7
Doctor	26.6	28.8	55.4
Clinic	11.5	12.4	23.9
			100.0



APPENDIX A

INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO PARTICIPANTS

Dear Friend,

This letter will introduce \_\_\_\_\_  
as an interviewer for the Native American Census 1975-1976.

Please co-operate with the interviewer as it is important that you be listed correctly. To achieve our goals of receiving Federal and State funding it is most imperative that a correct "head count" of all Native Americans be made. Thank you.



APPENDIX A-1

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What is the name of each person?
2. How is each person related to head of household?
3. Sex: M or F
4. Race: Indian tribe or other
5. Occupation
6. Date of Birth: month/year of birth
7. Place of Birth
8. Marital status: 1) now married 2) widowed 3) divorced 4) separated  
5) never married
9. Highest grade completed: 1) elementary through high school 2) college/5 or more  
3) Preschool
10. Vocational school
11. Current student: yes or no
12. Bi-lingual: 1) English, yes or no 2) Native, yes or no
13. Veteran: yes or no
14. Source of medical care: 1) hospital 2) doctor 3) clinic 4) days in hospital
15. Needed health care not sought
16. Handicapped: yes or no
17. Employment status: 1) employed 2) underemployed 3) unemployed  
4) not in labor force
18. Income from employment (monthly)

Under 125	801 - 905
125 - 250	951 - 1100
251 - 375	1101 - 1250
376 - 500	above 1250
501 - 650	no income
651 - 800	



19. Public Assistance received: 1) GR 2) AFDC 3) Disability 4) Medicare  
5) Medicaid 6) None 7) VA 8) SSI  
9) Unemployment 10) Other

20. Household income from all sources (monthly)

Under 125	651 - 800
125 - 250	801 - 950
251 - 375	951 - 1100
376 - 500	1101 - 1250
501 - 650	Above 1250

21. How many apartments are at this address?

1) one 2) 2 apartments 3) 3 apartments 4) 4 apartments 5) 5 or more  
apartments

22. How many rooms are there in your apartment?

1) 1 room 2) 2 rooms 3) 3 rooms 4) 4 rooms 5) 5 rooms 6) 6 rooms  
7) 7 rooms 8) 8 rooms 9) 9 rooms 10) 10 rooms or more

23. What is the monthly rent or mortgage payment?

Under 40	120 - 149
40 - 59	150 - 199
60 - 79	200 - 249
80 - 99	250 - 300
100 - 119	Above 300

24. Do you rent your apartment? Yes or No

25. Address: Street:  
City or Town:  
County:  
State:  
Zip Code:

Signature:

Interviewer:

Date:





## APPENDIX B

### DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

#### Age

The age classification is based on the age of the person between 1975 and 1976 as determined by reply to the question on month and year of birth.

#### Years of school completed

The data on years of school completed were derived from responses to questionnaire on highest grade completed with choices 1) elementary through high school 2) college 3) preschool

#### Veteran status

Probably does not cover persons who were in service at time of Census

#### Marital status

Marital status is divided into five categories: now married, widowed, divorced, separated, never married

#### Household

A household consists of all the persons who occupy a housing unit. All persons not members of household, e.g., rooming house, institutions were eliminated from count

#### Household Income

Total income is sum of amounts per household received before deductions

#### Employment status

Employed persons are all persons 14 years old and over who at time of survey were working for pay or profit. Persons classified as unemployed were not working during time of survey, but were looking for work. Persons laid off are also unemployed.

#### Occupation

Occupations classified according to groups defined by Monthly Labor Review of the Bureau of Labor Statistics



## APPENDIX C

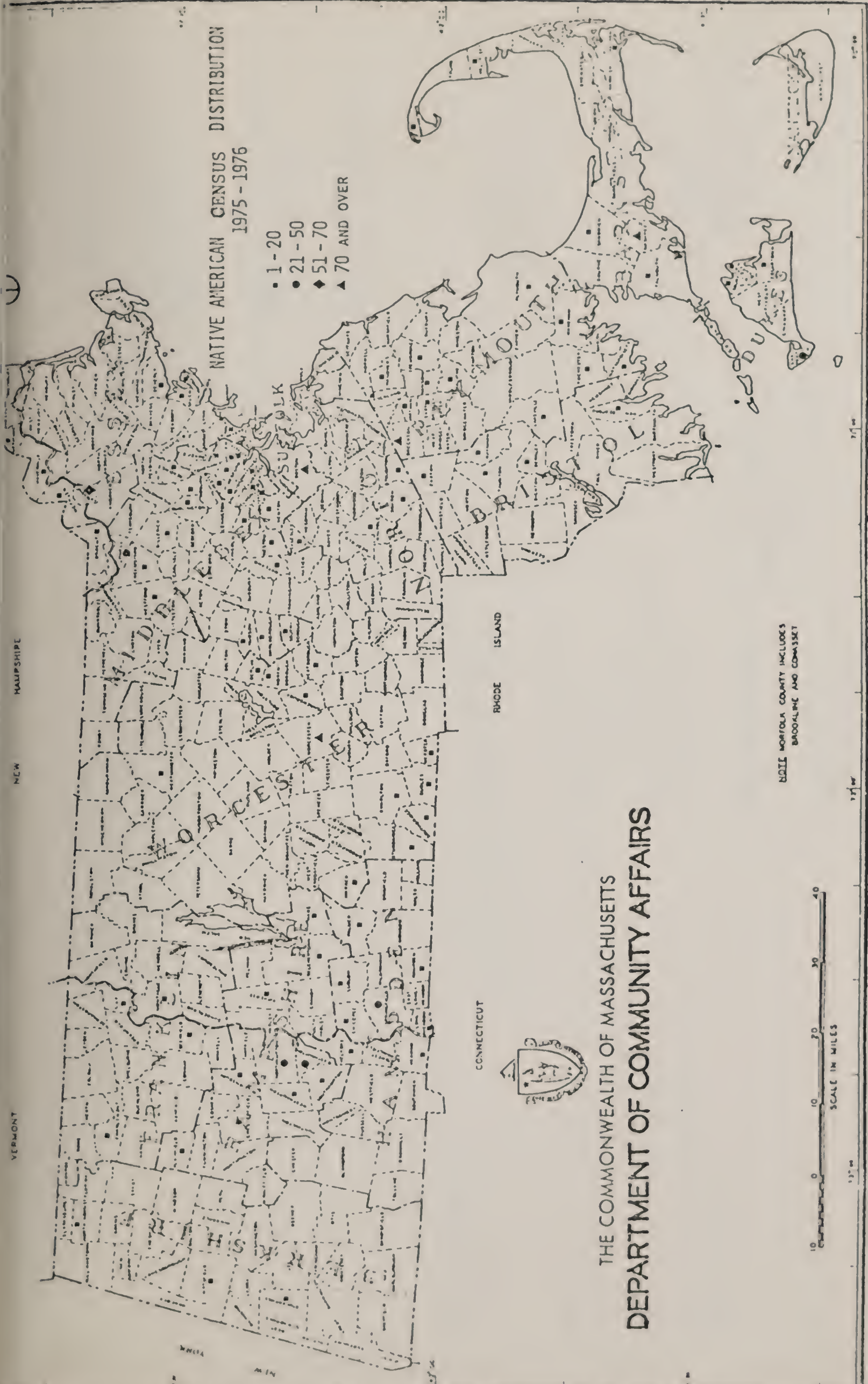
## 1976 INDIAN CENSUS DATA DISTRIBUTION

Population Tables	Number of Valid Responses	Number of un-defined re-sponses, Number of coding, errors,	Missing Observations
1. Sex by Age	3497	0	352
2. Head of Household Relationship by Age by Sex	3432	11	406
3. Marital status by age	2565	138	Undetermined
4. Monthly household income	707 Hshlds.	0	201
5. Years of school completed by persons older than 10 yrs.	2872	2	94
5.1 Years of school completed by sex of those older than 10 yrs.	2872	2	Undetermined
6. Occupation	971	129	Undetermined
7. Employment status by sex of those older than 20 yrs.	1684	1	Undetermined
7.1 Employment status by occupation	917	153	Undetermined
8. Tribe by Sex	3684	165	0
8.1 Households by Towns with greater than 19 households	283 Households	0	Undetermined
9. Public Assistance received by sex	975	8	Undetermined
10. Handicapped by age	3022	17	810
11. Veteran status by those older than 20	337	0	Undetermined
12. Source of medical care	2240	0	Undetermined



NATIVE AMERICAN CENSUS DISTRIBUTION  
1975 - 1976

- 1 - 20
- 21 - 50
- ◆ 51 - 70
- ▲ 70 AND OVER

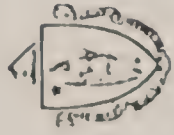


VERMONT

NEW HAMPSHIRE

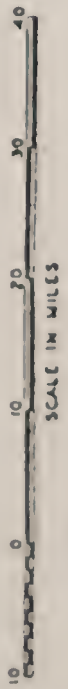
CONNECTICUT

RHODE ISLAND



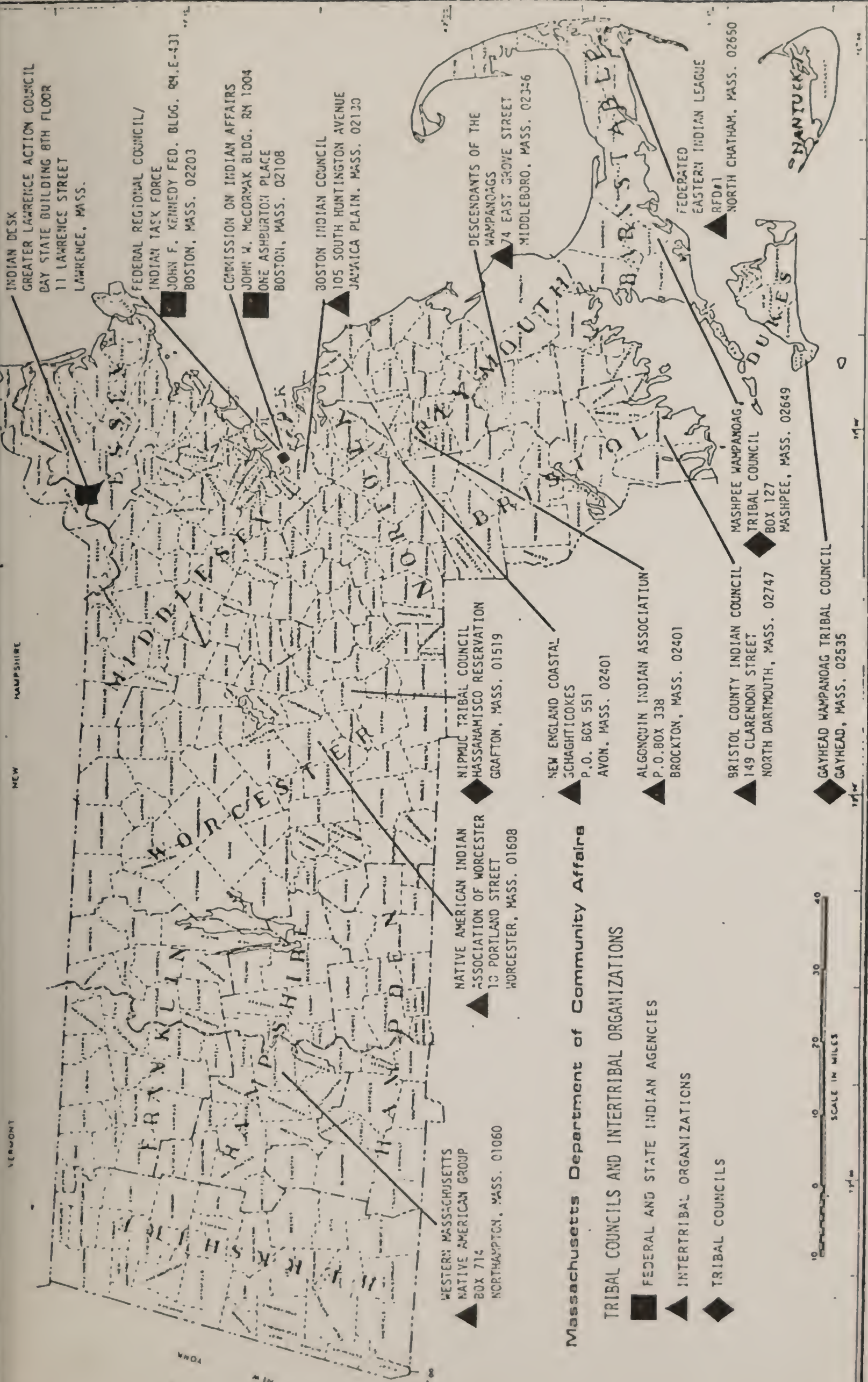
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

NOTE: NORFOLK COUNTY INCLUDES  
BROOKLINE AND QUINCY



1:250,000





INDIAN DESK  
GREATER LAWRENCE ACTION COUNCIL  
BAY STATE BUILDING 8TH FLOOR  
11 LAWRENCE STREET  
LAWRENCE, MASS.

FEDERAL REGIONAL COUNCIL/  
INDIAN TASK FORCE  
JOHN F. KENNEDY FED. BLDG. RM. E-431  
BOSTON, MASS. 02203

COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS  
JOHN W. MCCORMACK BLDG. RM 1004  
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE  
BOSTON, MASS. 02108

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ASSOCIATION OF WORCESTER  
13 PORTLAND STREET  
WORCESTER, MASS. 01608

NIPMUC TRIBAL COUNCIL  
HASSANAMISCO RESERVATION  
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BRISTOL COUNTY INDIAN COUNCIL  
149 CLARENDON STREET  
NORTH DARTMOUTH, MASS. 02747

GAYHEAD WAMPANOAG TRIBAL COUNCIL  
GAYHEAD, MASS. 02535

DESCENDANTS OF THE  
WAMPANOAGS  
74 EAST GROVE STREET  
MIDDLEBORO, MASS. 02346

FEDERATED  
EASTERN INDIAN LEAGUE  
RFD#1  
NORTH CHATHAM, MASS. 02650

**Massachusetts Department of Community Affairs**

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- FEDERAL AND STATE INDIAN AGENCIES
- ▲ INTERTRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS
- ◆ TRIBAL COUNCILS

